

Appendix
**Future Options for Future Closer Working
between Arbory and Rushen Parish Commissioners**

The Commissioners are keen to hear your views on the following options.

Option 1 – Merged administration

This option would in essence mean that one authority would provide under contract to the other authority all the services currently delivered by that authority. This would effectively mean that one administrative entity would provide services to both Parishes and both Parishes would continue to pay their share of the cost of service delivery.

There would be some savings to be made in officer time (around four hours a week) and a penny on the rates would most likely be saved. The two Parishes would remain separate legal entities under this option.

Option 2 – Full merger

This option would result in a new legal entity being created, Arbory and Rushen Parish Commissioners, with two separate wards of Arbory and Rushen within this new authority. Significant officer time savings of around a day a week would be made if this option were supported and a reduction in rates of up to 4p in the pound would be delivered.

Such a merger could also result in a reduction in the number of Commissioners, perhaps to three for each ward, and the Commissioners would be interested to hear your views on this.

Both Parish Boards are keen to secure the ancient Parish boundaries and identities and they have concluded that the options listed above will strengthen rather than weaken this.

It is unlikely that there will be any major change to your rates as a result of either of the options being agreed but a two or three percent reduction is the most likely outcome.

Both authorities currently spent about 14% on Administration and Finance, 8% on Street Lights, 60% on Refuse Collection, Disposal and the Recycling Centre and 18% on Recreation and Maintenance. This means that integration of the Parish budgets should be relatively simple to achieve.

The Arbory and Rushen Parish Commissioners are keen to hear your views and guidance before reaching any conclusion on what would be a momentous decision for our Parishes.

Please let us know your views by writing a letter or email to the Clerk using the contact details on the attached letter.